

REPORT

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE
Week ending the 20th December 1902.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The handsome pension granted by the Amir of Cabul to the notorious Hadda Mulla, says the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 15th December, doubtless shows great generosity on the part of the Amir. But may not one suspect that this big sum will be of much help to the Mulla in raising another standard of hostility against the British Government?

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Dec. 15th, 1902.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

2. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Tippera] of the 9th December says that the inhabitants of Kutubpur and the neighbouring villages within the Chandpur subdivision of the Tippera district are notorious for their turbulent disposition and rowdyism. There is no crime on earth that they cannot and do not perpetrate. They are dreaded more than gods in the locality. A few days ago, a man named Miya Majhe, a well-to-do cultivator of the village Bajapti, was cruelly murdered by some *budmashes* on a bank of the Meghna river, and two other men who were with him were severely wounded. One of the latter has since died in the local hospital and the other lies in a precarious condition. Again, a quarrel having occurred between two Muhammadan inhabitants of the above village, one of them tied the other hand and foot and threw him in the Meghna. The dead body of this man has been found. At the instance of the villagers, two men have been sent up for trial in the first of these two cases. What do the village chaukidar and the police do? They can surely make a name for themselves if murderers surrender themselves to them or appear before them besmeared with blood.

TRIPURA
HITAISHI,
Dec. 9th, 1902.

3. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 9th December says that a week ago a number of toddy license-holders roughly handled a passenger near the police outpost west of the Kesabganj Serai in the Burdwan district, and snatched away a Kabuli cotton cloth from his body. The poor passenger complained to the jamadar of the outpost, but the latter did nothing for him. How such a case could occur so near an outpost the authorities should enquire.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Dec. 9th, 1902.

4. A correspondence published in the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 10th December contains an account of the malpractices of *budmashes* in villages under the Munirampur thana in the 24-Parganas district. People live in constant fear of them and do not dare to whisper their names in the ears of others. It is rumoured that they have resorts in Kayemkola, Muragacha, Hanuar, Kamalpur, Solakhada, Dighirparh, Khedapara, Eranda, and other villages. Some months ago they attacked Babu Kesablal Datta, an inhabitant of the Bankura district, in his boat in the Muragacha village in broad day-light. They cut off a man's ear in the Muktapur *mela* in the presence of hundreds of people. People fear to speak or write against them. Even the village chaukidars fear them. The authorities should lose no time in taking active measures against these *budmashes*.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Dec. 10th, 1902.

5. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 13th December says that the unanimity of the official witnesses before the Police Commission, in attributing the blame for the imperfections of the police to the people of the country and not to the police itself, has not only made the writer anxious, but will be a cause for anxiety to Lord Curzon himself, bent as he is upon police reform. For, if His Excellency is to believe these witnesses, he must for the present suspend the work of the Police Commission and settle whether he should not first appoint a Commission to ascertain the truth of the statement made by some of the official witnesses that the police is bad because the people are bad, and that the people and not the police are to blame. Or instead of appointing such a Commission, His Excellency should consider whether, so long as the morality of the people does not improve, he should not cause the police work of the

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 13th, 1902.

country to be done entirely by foreigners. If the morality of the Indians be really low, and if the police be in danger of being contaminated by the people, His Excellency should on no account allow natives to carry on the police work. He should in that case expel all natives from the police and fill it wholly with foreigners. This certainly is a matter for serious anxiety. But, alas! His Excellency is already burdened with too much thought and too many cares. He is already full of anxiety regarding the Darbar, and there is now this dilemma about police reform which he must solve.

Another note of unanimity is heard before the Police Commission. The Sessions Judge, Mr. Cox, says:—"I believe the police do their duty as well as or better than the officers of other departments. I see no reason whatever for supposing that they are more corrupt, more dishonest, or more negligent in the performance of duty than the clerks and peons of the Courts and Collectors." Another dilemma! Should the Viceroy appoint yet another Commission to decide whether the police is bad or the officers of the other departments are bad? If he does, there will be no end of Commissions, and there will be nothing else. But, if he thinks fit, let him appoint such a Commission. The writer is not afraid of it. But, then, the appointment of so many Commissions would require that His Excellency should make himself less busy about the Darbar. For if the police reform, upon which he has set his heart, is to be effected after the decision of all the side issues which have been raised, it will hardly be possible for him to effect it within the brief term of his office.

Mr. Williams, Commissioner of the Bhagalpur Division, said: "The practice of young policemen marrying should be discouraged as much as possible." Probably, Mr. Williams thinks that the corruption of a police officer is due to the fact of his being embarrassed with a family and dependants when his pay is not large enough to enable him to bear such a burden, and that his pay will be sufficient for him if he is not so encumbered.

BASUMATI,
Dec. 13th, 1902.

6. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 13th December has learnt from a correspondent that for some time past thefts have been occurring every night in Kalia, a village in the Jessore district, without the police stirring either to catch the thieves or to check this recrudescence of crime.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BIKASH,
Dec. 2nd, 1902.

7. The *Bikas* [Barisal] of the 2nd December says that Babu Kailas Govinda Das, a Deputy Magistrate of Barisal, is in the habit of chastising his *amla* for no fault or for very slight faults. The *amla* consequently do not appear before him except when they cannot help doing so. His treatment of the parties is also very bad. He cuts such coarse jokes with them as serve only to show his stupidity and levity. It is very bad for a man like Kailas Babu to be continually prating from his chair and indulging in useless jokes with litigants.

CHARU MIHIR,
Dec. 9th, 1902.

8. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 9th December says that the Deputy Collector in charge of the Mymensingh Treasury comes to Court very late. Formerly the daily work of the treasury used to be finished within 3 P.M., but it is now finished at 7 or 8 P.M. It is hoped that the Deputy Collector will consider the inconveniences which this state of things causes to the public.

*SRI SRI VISHNU-
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA-BAZAR
PATRIKA*,
Dec. 10th, 1902.

9. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 10th December says that the manner in which the Hon'ble Judges of the Calcutta High Court are now-a-days seen to reject, contrary to their former practice, applications for appeals in criminal cases deprives not a few people of the benefit of that high judiciary. The poor and oppressed raiyat, to whom justice has been denied in the lower Courts, places his last hopes in the High Court, and such is his faith in it that he runs even to his last resource in order to place himself before it. The number of criminal appeals pending before

the High Court is at present appallingly large. Is this the reason why the majority of applications for entering appeals in criminal cases are now rejected by it?

10. Referring to the rumour that the Calcutta High Court will be closed for three weeks on account of the Delhi Darbar, the same paper says that innumerable original cases and appeals are at present pending before that Court, the file on the appellate bench alone comprising 60,000 cases. Every intelligent man considers this block disgraceful. Is it therefore possible that, in the face of this, the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court will go out for three weeks to enjoy *tamashas* in Delhi only a few days after they have returned from a long sojourn of four months?

Rumoured closing of the High Court on account of the Darbar.

SRI SRI VISHNU-
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA-BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Dec. 10th, 1902.

11. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 11th December says that the notification published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 19th November last announcing the transfer of the Pirganj and Bansihari thanas from the jurisdiction of the Raiganj Munsifi to that of the Sadar Munsifi in the Dinajpur district has created quite a sensation among the poor inhabitants of the thanas concerned. The distances of the Raiganj Munsifi from the furthest extremities of the Pirganj and Bansihari thanas are 28 and 30 miles respectively, whilst those of the Sadar Munsifi are at least 40 and 45 miles respectively. There is no direct railway or other convenient communication between the Sadar and the two thanas. Litigants from the latter will therefore have to go first to Raiganj and thence by railway to the Sadar. Such a journey will be both expensive and inconvenient. From a glance at the file of the petty cases in the Raiganj Munsifi, it will appear to every one that the well-to-do people of these parts are given to using forged documents in order to keep their tenants under control. The number of small suits is also very large, and the zamindars institute rent suits against their tenants with the intention of making them submissive. As a matter of fact, it is doubtful whether the file of any other Munsifi in Bengal contains as large a number of rent suits as the Raiganj Munsifi. If therefore obstacles are thrown in the way of the poor tenant defending himself in a lower court, the zamindar and *mahajan* will suck out his life-blood. Another point in this connection is that while the civil work of the Pirganj thana will be done in the Sadar Munsifi, its criminal work will be done in the Thakurgaon criminal court, and while the civil and criminal work of the Bansihari thana will be done in the Sadar, its registration work will be done in Raiganj. This anomaly is bound to be a source of great inconvenience.

Transference of two thanas from the jurisdiction of one Court to another in the Dinajpur district.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 11th, 1902.

The jurisdictions of Raiganj and Kaliaganj are very small. Is it therefore possible to form a Munsifi with these two places? Have the authorities considered this point? If a transfer like the above is at all to be made, it is the Kaliaganj thana which should be transferred to the Sadar Munsifi instead of the Pirganj and Bansihari thanas, because Kaliaganj is situate near a railway station and has therefore easy communication with the Sadar.

12. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 12th December says that the chances of natives getting justice even in the High Court are becoming fewer and fewer. The Court remains closed for more than six months in a year, and when it is remembered that the appeals from the whole Province have to be disposed of within the few remaining months, it is not difficult to see how very summarily justice is dispensed. On the 4th December last, for instance, the Judges disposed of eighteen cases within five hours. Need it be said in what way justice was dispensed in these cases? Yet the poor tax-payer has to pay the heavy cost of maintaining a High Court for administering justice in this manner.

The High Court.

HITAVADI,
Dec. 12th, 1902.

It is no wonder that the example of the well-paid Judges should be followed by the jurors, who get no remuneration for their labour. The other day, in the course of the hearing of the case of Muhammad Khan, constable, in the High Court Sessions, the jury grew impatient when the accused's Counsel was addressing them, and did not allow him time to conclude his address, but told him that there was no need of his continuing his address, as they had come to a decision in the case. This would not be possible in any civilised country.

HITAVADI,
Dec. 12th, 1902.

13. A correspondent of the same paper fears that Babu Mathura Nath Chatterji, who has done a service to the public by instituting a case against a peon of the Howrah Small Cause Court, may be influenced by some Court amla of position to compound the case, and advises him not to do so. Considering the scandals that are nowadays taking place everywhere in connection with the doings of Court peons, it is not at all desirable that this case should be settled out of Court.

RANGALAYA,
Dec. 13th, 1902.

14. The *Rangalaya* [Calcutta] of the 13th December writes as follows:—
The Calcutta Municipal Court. If our contemporaries send representatives to watch the proceedings of the Calcutta Municipal Court in the Town Hall, they will find that that Court is nothing but a slaughter-house for the slaughter of the poor rate-payers of the town. The cases cited below will show how the Municipal Kazi, Babu Priya Nath Mukharji, is dispensing justice. We hear that Babu Priya Nath will be soon promoted to a District Magistrateship. We wish him advancement with all our heart, only let him let the poor residents of Calcutta alone.

A poor woman was charged the other day before Babu Priya Nath with neglecting to vaccinate her child. She was unfortunate enough to be placed before the Magistrate with a batch of milkmen, who happened to be fined Rs. 25 each for the offence with which they were charged, and why should an exception be made in her case? Well, she, too, was fined Rs. 25.

A man was lately fined Rs. 50 for having built a parapet on the roof of his house, the parapet not having been shown in the plan of the building which he had submitted to the Municipality.

No end of oppression is also being committed in connection with privies, and fines of Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 are being inflicted for the slightest of offences.

The oppressive character of the new municipal law has been aggravated just now by the appointment of a Deputy Chairman, who sticks to the very letter of the law. Mr. Duval is a perfect gentleman, still the greatest oppression is being committed under his Deputy Chairmanship. Rich people are eluding the grasp of the law by courting the favour of the authorities or by giving illegal gratifications to municipal officers, but there is no escaping the law for the poor. They are repeatedly paying fines and shedding silent tears of sorrow.

These municipal oppressions which are being committed in Calcutta are in no way detracting from the merits of local self-government; they are only casting blots on the fair fame of the English people.

We know that many European officials will laugh at our words; but they should know that there is a limit to the patience of the weakest, and that when that limit is passed, even a kitten may turn into a tiger cub.

NAVA YUG,
Dec. 13th 1902.

15. The *Nava Yug* [Calcutta] of the 13th December says that the manner in which Justices Harington and Brett of the Calcutta High Court are disposing of criminal appeals has caused consternation in the minds of litigants. On the 4th December last they heard eighteen motions within five hours and rejected all of them with the exception of three or four. If half an hour is allowed for tiffin, then there remain $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours for the hearing of eighteen cases, that is to say, 15 minutes on an average for one case. But a case under Act V takes more time than that in a Police Court. A native Judge should always sit on the Criminal Appeal Bench. When Sir Francis Maclean first became Chief Justice of the High Court, he followed this practice, and so long as this practice was followed, the Criminal Appeal Bench never acted heedlessly. The heedlessness shown by Justices Harington and Brett is unprecedented in the annals of the High Court. It is hoped that the Hon'ble Chief Justice will lose no time in removing the cause of the general panic.

NAVA YUG.

16. The same paper writes:—
Mr. Abdur Rahim, Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta. Mr. Abdur Rahim is too much given to prosecuting people on charges of making false complaints and giving false evidence. In all cases sent up by the police, he refuses the complainant the services of a pleader, on the ground that in such cases no one but the Crown Prosecutor has the right to appear on behalf of the complainant, and he gives every facility to the

accused by subjecting the complainant and his witnesses to a severe examination, which they are ill able to stand without the aid of a pleader. We therefore pray the Police Commissioner to see that, in all contested cases of this description, either the Crown Prosecutor appears on behalf of the complainant or that the pleader engaged by him is allowed to appear on his behalf. There is, however, only one Crown Prosecutor for all Calcutta, so, if the principle insisted upon by Mr. Abdur Rahim is to be respected, at least two more Crown Prosecutors require to be appointed for conducting the very large number of police cases.

One Masum Muchi had a quarrel with a man named Bandhu. One night, when Masum was sleeping on a cart, Bandhu, Gopi, and a notorious *gunda* named Garib appeared there and struck him with a club, fitted with iron clasps, so severely that Masum had to remain in hospital for a long time. The police sent up Bandhu, Gopi, and Garib, while Bandhu instituted a cross-case against Masum. The case against Bandhu and his two accomplices was tried by Mr. Abdur Rahim himself, while that against Masum was made over to an Honorary Bench. From the very first Mr. Abdur Rahim began to show undue bias. The complainant was cross-examined by him even more severely than by the pleader for the accused, while he showed extreme partiality by putting improper questions to the Police Inspector conducting the prosecution. The Presidency Magistrate declared the affair to be "a free fight," and disbelieving the evidence on the side of the prosecution and without thinking it necessary to take medical evidence, dismissed the case. The case instituted by Bandhu was also dismissed by the Honorary Bench. Masum has now submitted a petition to the Police Commissioner, which concludes as follows:—

"That the dismissal of the case of your petitioner against Bandhu, Gopi, and Garib has caused a gross failure of justice, and has indirectly given encouragement to rowdy characters, like Garib who, while the case against him before the Northern Division Magistrate was pending, was convicted on a similar charge and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment on the 24th November by a Bench of Honorary Magistrates, and it may not be out of place to state that the Northern Division Magistrate took no steps for securing the attendance of the said Garib in a case of private prosecution in which a warrant had been issued against him on a charge of assault and theft, although the complainant in that case brought the fact to His Worship's notice.

"That as your humble petitioner is too poor to move the Hon'ble High Court against the illegal, improper, and unjustifiable discharge of the accused against the weight of evidence on the record, and as failure of justice in cases like these has a very bad moral effect upon the public, your petitioner prays that Your Honour will be graciously pleased to refer his case to the law officers of the Crown, with a view to move the High Court for an order of retrial of this case by the Chief Presidency Magistrate."

In another case—a case of affray in connection with the forcible possession of a house,—cross-cases were instituted, but while Mr. Abdur Rahim granted summons to the aggressor, Akshay Kumar Ghosh, he refused it to Sasilal, the man in actual possession. The aggrieved Sasilal thereupon made a motion to the High Court, which has made the following remarks on the Magistrate's proceedings:—

"The Magistrate has refused to issue process because he said he was not satisfied as to the truth of the petitioner's complaint. But when his judgment comes to be looked into, it appears that he has travelled outside the petitioner's complaint and has been led to refuse process because he thought that the complaint of the other party was there. In our opinion he was not entitled to take that course, and he was not entitled to travel outside into other matter to determine whether or not the process should be issued. For these reasons the rule must be made absolute. We direct the case to be transferred to the Chief Presidency Magistrate, who will issue process and proceed according to law."

In a third case the pleader for a boy named Jasoda Datta, who was charged with theft, prayed Mr. Abdur Rahim to take from the accused security

for good behaviour and let him off, considering that this was his first offence. But the Magistrate coming to know that the boy's father had previously been sent to jail refused this prayer and passed on him an alternative sentence of imprisonment for three months or confinement in a reformatory for a period of six years. A motion having been made in the High Court, Mr. Abdur Rahim has been called upon to show cause why the sentence should not be quashed.

When will this scandal in the Northern Division cease?

BHARAT MITRA,
Dec. 13th, 1902.

Cases hastily disposed of in the Calcutta High Court.

17. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 13th December is sorry that lately the Calcutta High Court disposed of 18 motion cases within five hours. It took the Judges nearly a quarter of an hour to dispose of each case. Is it possible that within such a short space of time they are able to understand the nature of a case?

SUHRID,
Dec. 15th, 1902.

Sale proclamations in the Barisal district.

18. The *Suhrid* [Noakhali] of the 15th December says that in the Barisal district a sale proclamation is seldom made on the spot by beat of drums, although the peon in charge of the duty always charges a fee for it. This deceit is going on for a long time. It is hoped that the District Judge will suppress this practice.

SUHRID.

Deposit of money in the Barisal Collectorate.

19. The same paper says that, owing to the procedure followed in the Barisal Collectorate in making deposits of money being faulty, complaints are frequently heard against the collectorate *poddars*. After a chalan is passed from the Judge's Court it has to be signed by the Accountant. The chalan and the money which is to be deposited are then handed to the *poddan*. After some two hours the chalan can be found in the Accountant's office. But if in the meantime the *poddar* denies having received the chalan or the money, the depositor can never prove that he gave them to him. The *poddar's* behaviour with the depositor is also not always good. Those who can bribe him soon get back their chalans. But those who cannot do that have to wait for two or three hours before they get them back. It is hoped that the Collector will make better arrangements in the matter.

SUHRID.

Nityananda Babu, a Deputy Magistrate of Noakhali.

20. The same paper says that recently one day when Nityananda Babu, a Deputy Magistrate of Noakhali, came to his Court, he was in a drunken condition. In that condition he went to the Treasury, and there he abused an *amla*, Babu Jogendra Nath Majumdar, who had gone there for promissory notes, by calling him "বুড়ো". Although Jogendra Babu is a clerk, he is very respectably connected. His father was a famous talukdar, and Babu Bagala Prasanna Majumdar, a retired Deputy Magistrate, is one of his relatives. One can easily conceive the mortification of a man so respectably connected when he found himself abused in open Court.

PRATIVASI,
Dec. 15th, 1902.

The Chief Justice on the independence of High Court Judges.

21. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 15th December fails to see what Sir Francis Maclean meant by bestowing on the late Sir John Woodburn the praise that the late Lieutenant-Governor never attempted to interfere with the independence of His Majesty's Judges. Is the public, then, to understand that Executive officers do at times try to win judicial officers over to their own opinions? The public expect the High Court Judges to tread the path of truth and justice without for a moment deviating from it even by an inch under anybody's frown or at anybody's suggestion. But the Chief Justice's words have served only to confirm a suspicion in the public mind, excited by the Pennell case, that the High Court Judges do not nowadays administer justice with that independence which nothing can shake.

(d)—Education.

BIKAS,
Dec. 2nd, 1902.

22. The *Bikas* [Barisal] of the 2nd December says that the Barisal Girls' School stands in urgent need of a building. The local municipality has set apart a plot of land for it, but it is still tenanted. It is said that the Director of Public Instruction's sanction is required before commencing the construction of a building, and that

the Secretary of the School has written to him for sanction. But nothing has yet been heard from the Director. Red-tape delay and dilatoriness is clearly visible in this matter. For want of a suitable house the school was being held in two places in the town at the same time. But owing to the house in the southern quarter of the town having been let out, it has been closed there; so the girls of that quarter are at present without a school.

23. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Tippera] of the 9th December says that

Vernacular text-books published by English firms.

formerly Bengali text-books were the monopoly of Bengali authors and Bengali publishers. But the list which has been published by the *Hitaishi* of vernacular text-books for the Middle Vernacular and Middle English examinations of 1904 in the Chittagong Division shows that Englishmen also have obtained a share in this monopoly. The following text-books, published by English firms, will be used in the Chittagong Division:—

Bhugol	...	Macmillan & Co.
Patiganit	...	{ Lock and Lewis.
		{ Macmillan & Co.
Geometry	...	Macmillan & Co.

So much the worse for Bengali authors!

24. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 12th December has the following:—

The new text-books for vernacular schools.

We said at the time when the Kindergarten cry was raised that its effect would only be to deprive the few native authors who made a living by writing school-books of their occupation and to open up new sources of income to English publishers, like Messrs. Macmillan and Company. This result has now been brought about.

From the *Calcutta Gazette* it appears that of the nine educational circles in Bengal, Messrs. Longmans, Green and Company's *Bignam Path* has been appointed as the text-book in literature in the lower primary schools in the Presidency Circle, and Messrs. Macmillan and Company's Science Reader in the Burdwan, Patna, Bhagalpur, Chota Nagpur, and Orissa Circles. It is only in the three circles of Chittagong, Dacca, and Rajshahi that the books of three Bengali authors have been appointed as text-books in literature. Messrs. Macmillan and Company's arithmetic has been appointed as the text-book in the Rajshahi, Patna, Bhagalpur, and Chota Nagpur Circles, and the books of five native authors in the five other circles.

In the upper primary standard, Messrs. Macmillan and Company's Science Reader has been appointed for five circles, Messrs. Longmans, Green and Company's book for one circle, and a book by a Bengali author for three circles. Messrs. Macmillan and Company's History has been appointed in six circles, and that of a Bengali author in the three remaining circles. In geography, Messrs. Macmillan and Company have secured five circles, and two Bengali authors the remaining four circles. In Arithmetic, Messrs. Macmillan and Company's book will be read in four circles, and the books of four native authors in the remaining circles. In Mensuration, Messrs. Macmillan and Company's book has been appointed for seven circles, and that of a Bengali author for the remaining two circles.

The names of native authors are equally scarce in the list of text-books for the Middle Vernacular examinations. Messrs. Macmillan and Company's and Messrs. Longmans, Green and Company's names are not found only in the list of vernacular literature and Grammar books. In science, the name of only one native author is found in the list, and his book has been appointed for only the Dacca circle and the Bengali boys of the Chota Nagpur Circle. In every other circle in Bengal, either Macmillan and Company or Longmans, Green and Company hold the full field. In history, only one native author, Abdul Karim, has been fortunate enough to get his book appointed, but only for the small Chittagong circle. Everywhere else will be read either Messrs. Macmillan's or Mr. Wilson's history. In geography, Macmillan and Company hold undisputed empire throughout Bengal, and in arithmetic half the province has come within their grasp. In mensuration, too, the book of no Hindu or Musalman author has been adopted, and in geometry, Messrs. Macmillan's book has been adopted for half the province.

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The Director of Public Instruction has also ordered that so long as Messrs. Longmans, Green and Company's text-book in English literature is not published, Macmillan's book is to be read in its place. Again, the list includes many books by Messrs. Macmillan and Company, which have not as yet been published, nor even given a name. A foot-note to the list says that these books will be named later on! This is educational reform with a vengeance!

The Lower Primary Science Reader is a book complete in 112 pages. Within its limited compass, however, it treats of botany, zoology, agriculture, physical science, chemistry, hygiene, domestic economy, drawing, poetry, and manual training. We were under the impression that it was quite an impossibility to teach boys all these subjects from a single elementary reader. But we now see that the authorities are getting quite a multitude of sciences pressed into these science readers, which contain everything except the favour of the goddess of learning, that is to say, real knowledge. The ignorant will, indeed, have enough of science in these books. This led us to say that it was not the reform but the destruction of education which the authorities were bent upon. It is not possible to review the whole of this reader in this place. We will quote only a few passages from it:—

The phrases “কেয়াগাছের বায়ব্য শিকড়,” “আস্থানিক শিকড়গুলি,” “আলসী মূল” are found in this reader.

The word “দৈবার্ষিক” which occurs in the book will relieve grammarians of the trouble of ascertaining the distinction between the forms “দ্বিবার্ষিক,” and “দৈবার্ষিক.”

The chapter headed “শয়ন করিবার বিধি” contains things of which not only the boys but even their guardians are ignorant. The portion headed “গার্হস্থ্য বিধান” may be read by the guardians with advantage, if they can understand the language.

The kind-hearted author writes:—

“এই নিমিত্ত যথোচিত দরজা জানালা খাকা উচিত। খড়ের ঘরের বেড়া ও চালের মধ্যে যথেষ্ট কাক, এখানে বায়ু চলাচলের কোন ব্যাঘাত হয় না। পাকা ঘরে অনেক স্থানে উচিত পরিমাণ জানালা রাখা হয় না; যদিও রাখা হয়, সে গুলি আবার অতি ছোট, অনেক স্থলে বস্তুতঃই সার্থক গবাক্ষ।”

Bravo to the author! Bravo to Messrs. Macmillan and Company!! Though your language contains enough of opening (‘যথেষ্ট কাক’), your thoughts have been sufficiently (‘উচিত পরিমাণে’) ventilated (‘চলাচল হইয়াছে’). Will anybody understand what you mean by “সার্থক গবাক্ষ”? Later on there occurs “দুই প্রস্ত বিধানা খাকা উচিত.” Really the Bengali of the book makes one burst one's sides with laughter.

More curious even are the poetical pieces. Here is a translation of a sloka of Chanakya's:—

“গুণবান্ হয় যদি এক পুত্র ভাল,
‘মূৰ্খ শত পুত্র হলে, কেবল জঞ্জাল;
‘এক চন্দ্র জগতের বিনাশে আধার,
‘সাধ্য নাহি হয় তাহা অসংখ্য তারার।”

What is ‘তাহা’ in the above passage? Even a Burtala writer would not have written such verse.

Another passage:—

“দুই জন হয় যদি বিদ্যায় তৎপর,
‘তবু তারে পরিত্যাগ করিবে সত্বর;
‘অভাবতঃ বল সৰ্প—মণিতে ভূষিত,
‘হলে আরও ভয়ঙ্কর হয় সে নিশ্চিত।”

After this, the readers of the book will certainly become ‘devoted to learning.’ Alas for grammar! Your sway is, at last, going to be abolished. It is nowhere stated that the above passages are translations.

Any one who wishes to appear at the Middle Scholarship examination must read Macmillan's “ভারতের ইতিহাস.” Here is a passage from the book:—

“যালব দেশে হইজন যারহাটা সর্দার ভিন্ন ভিন্ন রাজ্য প্রতিষ্ঠা করিয়াছিলেন। একজন সিদ্ধিলা ও অন্যজন হোলকার। গোয়ালিয়র সিদ্ধিয়ার এবং ইন্দোর হোলকারের রাজধারী ছিল।

বিবার প্রদেশে ভোসলা নামে একজন মারহাটা সর্দার নাগপুরে রাজধানী করিয়া এক নূতন রাজ্য স্থাপন করেন।”

Is more wanted? Not to speak of the beauty of the language, the history and geography given in the passage have fully charmed us. People never knew before that ‘Nagpur’ was in ‘Mewar.’ But, thanks to Messrs. Macmillan and Company, this will now be known in every household in Bengal. Praised be the Director of Public Instruction! No one will easily forget the great service he has rendered to the people of Bengal by taking upon himself the responsibility of authorising the reading of such a book in its schools.

This novel history will not only teach boys such history as the above, but will also excite in their minds great respect and reverence for their ancestors. As soon as they open the book, they will come upon the passage:—

“আর্য্যগণ বজ্রধনিকে ইন্দ্রের আদেশ বা কণ্ঠস্বর এবং বিদ্যুতের কণ্ঠস্বরী জ্বলন্ত রেখাকে ইন্দ্রের শাণিত বর্শা মনে করিয়া ভয় ও সম্মান করিতেন। যখনই বিদ্যুতের প্রভা বিকশিত হইত, আর্য্যগণ মনে করিতেন, ইন্দ্রদেব বর্শা দ্বারা মেঘরাশি বিদীর্ণ করিতেছেন, তখনই ক্ষেত্রে বারি বর্ষণ হইতেছে।”

Will not even this make the learning of the boys shine with effulgence? Thanks to you, Director of Public Instruction, and praised be your approval of this book!! This is really a reform of the Education Department!

Henceforth high-class text-books like these will be produced by authors like Bob and Gomes and published by Messrs. Macmillan and Company and Longmans, Green and Company. Many will probably say that the Bengali of the missionaries, such as “বাপ্তাইজিত” and “আদিত্যে বাক্য ছিলেন, বাক্য ঈশ্বরের সহিত ছিলেন ও সেই বাক্যই ঈশ্বর ছিলেন” was infinitely better than the language of these school books.

The schools and pathsalas in every village will cause these curious text-books to be read by their pupils, lest they lose Government aid and the privilege of sending up boys to the public examinations!

25. A correspondent of the same paper complains that though the new classes in the vernacular schools in Bengal were formed in September last, the authorities of these schools have not yet received from the Education Department lists of the text-books to be read. It is said that the lists have been published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, but how many people in the mufassal see it. The boys of these schools have, therefore, been able to do nothing these three months.

26. The same paper says that the speech, which was delivered by the Viceroy at the Rajkumar College in Ajmer, ought to receive the attention of the public. The views he expressed on the system of teaching to be adopted for the sons of native Chiefs seem to have clearly betrayed His Excellency's secret object in instituting the Universities Commission. He said:—

“The danger is that, in our desire to train up the rising generation to a wider conception of their duties, we may allow their training to run ahead of their opportunities, and may produce in them inclinations or capacities which are unsuited to their surroundings, or for which there is afterwards an insufficient field.”

Did not His Excellency appoint the Universities Commission and propose to restrict higher education with the object of avoiding a similar danger in regard to the country at large? The truth is that the officials of the present day are not willing to fulfil the ambition and aspirations of the natives who receive high education, and to avoid the discontent which might naturally be the result, Lord Curzon is devising means to put obstacles in the way of the higher education of the whole country, from princes to the sons of the poor. This is very unfortunate for India.

27. A correspondent of the same paper complains that in the B Appendix of the list of subjects appointed to be read in the various classes of middle vernacular schools during the year 1904, *Mankasha*, *Serkasha*, *Masmahianu*, and *Sonakasha*, according to the *Subhankari* method, have been appointed for

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boys of the First Standard, who read up to simple division in arithmetic. The authorities of the Education Department should teach poor school-masters how to teach the above-named subjects without first initiating the boys in the secrets of compound addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

NAVA YUG,
Dec. 13th, 1902.

28. The *Nava Yug* [Calcutta] of the 13th December says:—

The latest list of vernacular text-books.

We bless the Text-Book Committee for the latest list of text-books for the Lower Primary, Middle Vernacular, and Middle English examinations, a list in which Bengali books published by English firms have found a large space. This means that there is a dearth of good authors in Bengal possessing a sound knowledge of the Bengali language. Most of the things which we come across from sunrise to midnight are things brought from Europe. English forms and ideas have also entered more or less into our spoken and written language. If Bengali boys can now be taught in Bengali cast in a complete English mould, then the transformation which has commenced all round will become complete.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

BIKAS,
Dec. 2nd, 1902.

29. The *Bikas* [Barisal] of the 2nd December says that on enquiry made

Cholera in Barisal town.

by the Chairman of the Barisal Municipality, the local Civil Surgeon has said that if it is desired to avoid cholera, great care should be taken as to the use of drinking-water. The Chairman is trying to introduce pipe water in the town, but it will take a long time to carry out this project. The Civil Surgeon says that the water of the reserve tanks in the town should be boiled and then used for drinking. Every year cholera first makes its appearance in the houses situate on both sides of the jail *khal*. Refuse from the jail is thrown into it, making its water unwholesome. The attention of the Chairman is drawn to the matter.

JYOTI,
Dec. 11th, 1902.

30. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 11th December says that though the

The proposed levy of a toll in the Chittagong port.

authorities of the Chittagong port have for the present desisted from the levy of the proposed tolls on the boats, etc., using the Chaktai Nulla Canal, they seem to be proposing the levy of a toll of one anna per ton on all cargo boats coming into the Chittagong port from the interior of the country. But boats which come into the Chittagong port from the interior laden with agricultural produce and indigenous manufactures have always been exempt from toll at that port, because they never have any sort of connection with it. The High Court also declared section 24 of the Port Act inapplicable to such boats. Still for a long time attempt has been made to bring these boats within the purview of that section. To levy a toll on such boats as have already paid tolls at the ghats of the District Board will be nothing short of an illegal proceeding. If the notice which has been recently issued does not mean the levy of a toll on these boats, the authorities should say so plainly, for the third clause in their notice says that a toll would be levied on all boats coming with cargo into the Chittagong port. The Port Act, it is certain, never contemplated the levy of a tax on the indigenous agricultural produce of the country.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

MEDINI BANDHAV,
Dec. 8th, 1902.

31. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 8th December says that the

A lost bridge in the Midnapore district.

bridge which existed near the temple of the goddess *Gopandini* on the Bombay Road, as it is called, running from Sujaganj, through Istriganj, Kalganj, and Gop, in the Midnapore district, having been washed away during the last rainy season, the public and especially the traders who have to use this road are suffering the greatest inconvenience. The road and public works cesses are collected with the utmost rigour, but there is no strict rule requiring the repair and construction of roads for which the cesses are levied. This is work which seems to depend entirely on the whim of the District Boards.

HITAVADI,
Dec. 12th, 1902.

32. A Kushtia correspondent of the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 12th

A railway complaint.

December complains that though, on the occasion of the late *Rasjatra* festival at Navadwip and Santipore, the authorities of the Eastern Bengal State Railway freely sold tickets to pilgrims, they did not make sufficient arrangements for their conveyance.

Passengers were crowded in carriages, and even goods waggon were called into requisition to carry them. The authorities did not stop the sale of intermediate class tickets during these days. They supplied no separate accommodation to the holders of such tickets, and the latter had to travel with third-class passengers. The overcrowding was terrible between Kushtia and Goalundo on the one hand and Bogra on the other.

33. Another correspondent of the same paper complains that the practice of selling tickets at only one stall at an important station like Dum-Dum junction, on the Eastern

A railway complaint.

Bengal State Railway, causes serious inconvenience to passengers. There should also be a light at the ticket-stall at night.

The want of a waiting-room for ladies on the down platform of this station causes much inconvenience to female passengers. The new timing of No. 8 down train has also become a source of hardship to many. This train should be made to touch at Khardah, Sodpur, and Agarpura for a few minutes in each case.

34. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 15th December draws the attention of the authorities to the hardships of tramway conductors in Calcutta, who are falling ill in large numbers through overwork, which they undergo in hopes of earning a decent livelihood. The conductors should not be paid by trips, but should get fixed salaries and have fixed hours of labour.

Tramway conductors in Calcutta.

(h)—General.

35. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 11th December says that the newly-appointed Comptroller of the Post Office has issued a circular to the effect that of the 12 days' casual leave, to which every Government servant is entitled in a year his clerks will get four days on full pay, the next four days on half pay, and the last four days without pay. How does it become casual leave if one does not receive one's salary for it? It is hoped that the higher authorities will look to this, and save the poor clerks of the Comptroller's office from unjust treatment.

Casual leave of the clerks of the office of the Comptroller of the Post Office.

36. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 11th December says that officers of the Forest Department in Chittagong tremble at the very name of the Forest officer, Babu Gopal Chandra Bhaumik. A guard named Mogal Chand had served for ten years in Chandraghona. He was suddenly transferred by Gopal Babu to Ringkang, and within a month was brought back to the former station, the reason shown by Gopal Babu for the man's retransfer being that no one except Mogal Chand was able to mark trees in Chandraghona. He also secretly got an order passed by Mr. Heinig for appointing Nutan Chandra, a guard of Bagkhali, as his own orderly; but the order was rescinded as soon as he came back from his tour in Bagkhali. Similarly, he got an order passed for the transfer of Bagala Sen, of Fenny station, to the Patiya reserve, but this order, too, was cancelled as soon as he came back from his tour of inspection in Fenny. All these incidents look very suspicious. It is also said that Gopal Babu enjoys himself in various ways at the expense of the foresters and sells bamboos in an illegal manner.

A Forest officer in Chittagong.

37. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 12th December complains that the fees which are levied by the Post Office from those who secure from it the privilege of sitting in the verandahs of the Sub-Post Offices in Calcutta and earning an income by writing out letters and money-orders for illiterate people having been very largely increased of late years, they, in their turn, now charge a fee of half an anna, instead of the sanctioned fee of one pice, for each letter or money-order written out. This is causing great hardship to the poor people who have their writing work done by them.

A postal complaint.

38. In continuation of its article on Babu Chunder Nath Bose, noticed in paragraph 36 of Report on Native Papers of the 13th instant, the *Rangalaya* [Calcutta] of the 13th December writes as follows:—

"In accuracies in translation — Babu Chunder Nath Bose."

Truth to tell, we entertain very great respect for Babu Chunder Nath. He is a learned man and a good writer, and possesses wisdom and discrimina-

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PRATIVASI,
Dec. 15th, 1902.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 11th, 1902.

JYOTI,
Dec. 11th, 1902.

HITAVADI,
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tion. He had so long performed his official duties with remarkable ability. We are also aware that the publication in a newspaper of anything in disparagement of Babu Chunder Nath will have this affect, that no Bengali will in future be given the post of Bengali Translator to Government. After the late Reverend J. Robinson, the late Babu Raj Krishna Mukherji had served as Bengali Translator with great credit. After him Babu Chunder Nath, too, gave proof of ability. But by giving evidence in the *Hitavadi* case and writing "Nava Path," "Nimna Path," and other books, and making too much money, he has become one knows not what. He has got introduced another school-book in the name of his son Hara Nath Bose. That, too, is bringing in a handsome amount. We have heard that two other school-books still lie in the vast and capacious womb of his intellect, and will soon see the light. As a tiger which has tasted the human blood wants nothing else and it is only the neck of a human being on which it would fasten its teeth, so by making money beyond all expectation by writing school-books, Babu Chunder Nath has in some measure acquired the nature and disposition of a man-eater. He is always troubled by the fear lest the publication of any adverse criticism should decrease the sale of his books and thereby cause him pecuniary loss. Unfavourable remarks which he could formerly laugh away, and which formerly never touched his body, are precisely those which now make him impatient. Formerly Babu Chunder Nath was a man whose words were sweet, conversation entertaining, and temper good and cheerful. People loved to sit near him and listen to his words. In danger and difficulty he conferred many favours and benefits on many people. But now in his old age he has become a Hindu, joined the party of ruminants, and has made, and is still making, too much money by writing small school-books. With this change, a change has come over his nature and disposition, while his bodily health, too, has become impaired.

If Lord Salisbury could make his son-in-law the head of the Admiralty, if by becoming the son-in-law of a big civilian one could become the manager of a big zamindari, then, why should not Babu Chunder Nath give an appointment to his son-in-law in his own office? We have no objection to his son-in-law's serving in the Translation Department. But, then, learned men who are a little too fond of their wives are generally known to develop a more than normal amount of partiality for their sons-in-law. Babu Chunder Nath, as a matter of fact, entertains an affection for his son-in-law, and when suffering from bronchitis and other chest affections he manages to discharge his official duties by merely remaining seated in his office chair like something inert, thanks to that love, is he able to and, as a matter of fact, does he carefully and completely revise the translation or other work which is done by his son-in-law? Does Babu Chunder Nath translate any Bengali newspaper himself? Has he translated himself any portion of the *Hitavadi*, the *Bangavasi*, the *Basumati*, the *Rangalaya*, or any other newspaper within the last twelve months? Beyond marking the papers with a red and blue pencil, does he help his assistants in any other way in the preparation of the Weekly Report on Native Papers? We know that he does nothing of the kind, or we would not have said so much. Babu Chunder Nath probably remembers how well pleased that all-seeing Lieutenant-Governor Sir Charles Elliott was with him and his office.

A friend has been telling us that any attempt on our part to disclose the secrets of Babu Chunder Nath's office would bring us within the purview of the law. At least an attempt is being made from his side to bring about that result. Let such attempts be made. What even if we go to jail for a few days? But no such fear would make us lie or suppress what we feel in our hearts, nor would it make us describe him as a saint and enrol ourselves as his sycophants. Very well, let us ask a question. Why should there be so much secrecy, so much hide-and-seek in this matter? We write newspapers for the information of Government. What we write we write publicly and with the knowledge of many people. Why should, then, the English translations of our writings, which are submitted to Government, be placed before it with so much secrecy? It is because they are placed before it so secretly and silently that various doubts and misgivings arise in our minds. It seems to us that the translators are incompetent men. Thoughts like these and many more cross our minds. We shall put the reader in mind of a well-known incident. When

Lord and Lady Curzon first came to India, the *Bangavasi* published an article describing the beauty and accomplishments of Her Excellency. An English translation of the article subsequently appeared in the *Englishman* newspaper. We learnt from a trustworthy source that the translation had emanated from Babu Chunder Nath's office. That translation was wrong, and the sentiments of the original Bengali article had been in English made the exact opposite of what was intended. For that reason the *Bangavasi* had to put up with ridicule at the hands of the *Englishman*. It is not unoften that the *Pioneer* publishes in English the opinions of the Native Press. Are not many of these extracts made from official translations? During the plague scare and in Sir Alexander Mackenzie's time we had opportunities of perusing these official translations and noticed many errors in them. Shall we not, even after all this, say that the work of translation is not now done well in Chunder Nath Babu's office, and that, in trying to make an image of a god, he not unoften turns out an image of a monkey? During the Tilak prosecution, when the *Bangavasi* published a series of articles written in a sarcastic vein and abounding in mythological and technical phraseology, did Babu Chunder Nath's office give whole and accurate translations of those writings? In addition to the fact that the system is bad and the arrangements strange and curious, there is Babu Chunder Nath's *daladali*, there is self-interest as well as the interest of others, there are friends and acquaintances and what not. Where is, then, our fault? Is it our fault that we always remain in fear? If Government does not speedily attend to this matter, there will soon be a scandal. Will Babu Chunder Nath translate this second article too?

39. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 16th December says that the daily mail from Calcutta and Midnapore arrive, at Contai within 12 noon. But even those who live very near

A postal complaint.

the local post-office do not receive their letters before 4-30 or 5 P.M. The postman says that he has first to go to the local treasury with money, and that formerly this work used to be done by another man. Whatever the cause of the delay may be, it causes great inconvenience to the local public. The return mail from Contai is despatched after 3 P.M. If, therefore, the letters contained in the first mail are received earlier, the answers can be sent by return mail the same day. The attention of the Postal authorities is drawn to the matter.

NIHAR.
Dec. 16th, 1902.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

40. Referring to the decision of the Tippera succession question, the *Tripura Hitaishi* [Tippera] of the 9th December says that it is always desirable that the Maharaja should be unrestrained in the appointment of the *Jubaraj*.

The decision of the Tippera succession question.

Lord Curzon is a far-sighted politician, and has done an inestimable good to the Tippera State by declining to interfere with the independence of its ruler. A decision of the case in favour of the Bara Thakur would have thrown the State into violent internal dissensions. Everyone is glad at the triumph of the Maharaja. The news of His Highness's victory will be hailed with delight in Tippera.

TRIPURA
HITAISHI.
Dec. 9th, 1902.

41. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 12th December writes as follows:—

Lord Curzon's Jaipur speech.

We fail to see how, as Lord Curzon said, the ensuing Darbar would add more to the glory of the native rulers of India than did the Darbar of 1877. We do not yet know what honourable office the Viceroy would confer on those whom Lord Lytton appointed "Councillors of the Empire." So far as has transpired, the sons of these rulers would be appointed to serve as the Viceroy's attendants. But would that be any honour and glory for the descendants of the Solar and Lunar dynasties? His Excellency also tried to please the Rajput Princes by referring to incidents in their past history. He reminded them how when at the beginning of the last century, the Rajput Chiefs were being repeatedly attacked and hard pressed by the Pathans on the one hand, and the Mahrattas on the other, and were on the point of losing their territories, Warren Hastings and Lord Wellesley came to their aid and saved them from ruin. He was also pleased to tell them that, in memory of the great service thus rendered to them by the English rulers of

HITAVADI.
Dec. 12th, 1902.

India, the Rajput Chiefs had all along conducted themselves with sincerity towards the British Raj.

But what necessity was there, when speaking about the Delhi Darbar, for reviving these memories of past and almost forgotten feuds and jealousies? What need was there for this disgorging of venom at a time when, being all alike placed under British rule, the people of the different provinces of India are about to embrace each other as brothers? And is everything which Lord Curzon said in the name of history perfectly true? Were the names of the Rajput States really going to be obliterated from the pages of Indian history at the beginning of the last century? Would the Mahrattas have been able to extirpate a race of rulers who combined in themselves such rare virtues as patriotism, religiousness, perseverance, physical strength, and skill in warfare, and who for seven hundred years had held their own against the Musalmans?

Is it in the power of anybody to reduce to a titular position those that are fortified with such virtues as these? Have even the English, who have been able to devour those provinces which did not possess these virtues, been able to reduce the Rajput rulers to mere names?

Did it not behove His Excellency, when delivering himself of this, to remember that the Musalmans and Mahrattas, when attacking the Rajput States, meant nothing more than making them acknowledge their suzerainty and pay them tribute; that where tribute was paid, they did not interfere either with their personal or administrative independence, and that it was owing to this policy of theirs that native rulers, sardars, and jagirdars were neither extirpated, nor reduced to mere puppets?

And should His Excellency forget that it was the very Governors-General, Warren Hastings and Lord Wellesley, in whose praise he was so loud, who destroyed a good many native States? What has become of Ranjit Singh's territory? What but mere names are Chiefs like the Amir of Sindh and the Nawab of Oudh now? Who obliterated from the history of India the names of the Peshwas of Poona and the Bhonslas of Nagpur? It is, indeed, not a little strange that Lord Curzon should go against facts recorded in history and endeavour to set the Rajputs against the Musalmans and Mahrattas by speaking of the latter as men who attempted to rob their Chiefs of their territories.

42. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 13th December writes as follows:—

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 13th, 1902.

The Viceroy's Jaipur speech. Who was not delighted to hear the Viceroy advise the Native Chiefs of Rajputana to maintain their ancient manners, customs, and traditions, and not to bring ruin upon their country by adopting European manners? The Viceroy is, indeed, doing everything to preserve from ruin all that he has seen good in this country. The cloth-manufacturing industry in Amritsar charmed him, and, when visiting the Native Chiefs, he regretted that instead of patronising such an excellent industry, the Chiefs showed their liking for European cloth of inferior quality.

How many officials, before Lord Curzon, said so plainly as His Excellency that Europeans should not become all in all in the Native States, and that those States should exist for the benefit of natives? If His Excellency's word is not always strictly followed, that is due to our own unfortunate lot and to no fault of his.

In his Jaipur speech His Excellency said by way of advice to the Chiefs:—

"My ideal has never been the butterfly that flies aimlessly from flower to flower, but the working bee that builds its own hive and makes its own honey."

One cannot bestow too high praise on Lord Curzon for all these excellent words.

But His Excellency did not openly say anything about the way in which the Chiefs could make themselves solicitous about the welfare of their subjects, or how they can maintain the old Hindu traditions in ruling their States. The training which is being at present imparted to the sons of the Rajput Chiefs in the Rajkumar College is not calculated to produce model Hindu rulers.

But though His Excellency's Jaipur speech was a highly gratifying one, he might have omitted from it all reference to the Maharaja's late visit to England. It matters little to the Hindu community whether the Maharaja himself or the Viceroy approves of that journey to England. It is for that community themselves and for the Hindu *Sastras*, and not for either the Maharaja or the Viceroy, to judge whether that visit was right or wrong.

43. *Al Punch* [Bankipore] of the 13th December says that the present Resident at Hyderabad is a very hot tempered man. Of late he had one Maulvi Ziaulla, an official of the Nizam's Government, arrested by the Residency police, and released him on bail, simply because he had been driving his carriage very fast. Perhaps the Resident has assumed the attitude of a Nawab or a Nadir Shah, otherwise he would not have acted so arbitrarily.

AL PUNCH,
Dec. 13th, 1902.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

44. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 8th December has learnt from its Satahata correspondent that, for want of rain, there has been an almost complete failure of the paddy crop in the Doro pargana of the Government khas mahal in the Midnapore district, the outturn being expected not to exceed four annas. Added to the failure of crops during the last few years, the present year's failure has reduced the pargana to great straits. During the month of Aswin last, most raiyats had to live many days on one meal a day. This led them to eat anything with which they could appease their hunger, and the consequence has been an outbreak of cholera among them. What is to be done now? Should the khas mahal raiyats of the British Government be allowed to die of starvation even in this year of the Emperor's Coronation?

MEDINI BANDHAV,
Dec. 8th, 1902.

Though Government's attention has been repeatedly drawn to the miserable condition of the khas mahal raiyats in the Midnapore district, nothing has been done to mend the situation. It is the order of the Government of India that the Coronation of His Majesty should be celebrated by squandering money on fire-works, by feasting well-fed school children, and by otherwise wasting money on amusements. This order will not be changed even if the people cry themselves hoarse against it, nor will any prayer for devoting the money raised for the celebration of the Coronation to the establishment of Coronation agricultural banks be listened to. But what about saving the raiyats from starvation? The present sympathetic Magistrate of Midnapore should look to the matter.

45. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 16th December is glad that the agitation carried on in some of its recent issues on the subject of failure of crops and scarcity in many places within the Contai subdivision of the Midnapore district has attracted the attention of the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division. The Commissioner, Mr. Carstairs, has expressed his desire to relieve the distressed. But it is rumoured that some respectable men have told him that this year the cultivators have got an abundant harvest and that the raiyat's condition is prosperous, and some have stigmatised the statements made in the *Nihar* as exaggerated. Perhaps these men do not know what an amount of harm they have done to the poor raiyats by making these misrepresentations. The knowledge of these men is most probably limited to a few villages which have been fortunate enough to get a good harvest. It is confidently stated that the crops in Daudpur, Dantakharai, and other parganas have completely failed, and that the average crop outturn is far from satisfactory.

NIHAR,
Dec. 16th, 1902.

It is impossible for high officials to see with their own eyes the condition of the crops within their jurisdictions. They have therefore to depend on the reports of others in this matter. If these reports be false or incorrect, then all hope is lost for the poor raiyat.

It is hoped that a place over which rules a good and generous man like Mr. Carstairs will not long be in distress without getting relief.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BIKAS,
Dec. 2nd, 1902.

46. The *Bikas* [Barisal] of the 2nd December says that although the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal did very few acts which might make his name to be stored in the memory of his people, yet every Bengali, educated or uneducated, is to-day mourning his death. The affability and gentlemanliness of the departed great man are the only cause of this universal mourning. He would never hurt the feelings of any man, whatever his position if he could avoid it. This endeared him to the Bengalis. The gratitude of Indians, especially Bengalis, is easily won. The Bengali's heart is so soft that a few sweet words alone overpower him. However hard a man may be in his acts, if he possesses a sweet tongue he earns the respect and gratitude of Indians. It is a matter of great regret that many officials fail to earn even these. Bengalis would think themselves blessed if all officials were as sympathetic in their professions as the late Sir John Woodburn was. May God take care of his soul!

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Dec. 10th, 1902.

47. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 10th December says that astounding news has been received from Bogra in connection with the collection of subscriptions for the celebration of the Emperor's Coronation in that district. Bogra is a very poor district, mainly inhabited by illiterate cultivators, and with the exception of two zamindars, who have an income of about a lakh of rupees each, all its zamindars are petty landholders, whose incomes range between ten and twenty thousand rupees. In a district like this, it has been decided to celebrate the Coronation by an expenditure of Rs. 40,000. This money is being realised from the poor people with great *zulm*. Every *panchayet* in the district has been served with a notice asking him to collect a sum of Rs. 200 to Rs. 250 within his jurisdiction. Fear of incurring the displeasure of the authorities, not the least dreaded among whom is the Police Sub-Inspector, is compelling them to pay, and the man who is not able to pay one pice is being made to subscribe ten rupees. But it is not in Bogra alone that such *zulm* is being committed. Can the occasion which is attended with so much oppression excite feelings of joy and reverence in the minds of the oppressed? Do not District Magistrates, possessed of their much-vaunted civilization, see what all ordinary men see, that expenditure of money in *tamashas* is so much heartless waste of money? Let them spend the subscriptions, which will be collected for the celebration of the Coronation, in improving the arts and industries of the country, in stimulating agriculture, in providing for annual exhibitions of agricultural products; in short, in anything which the local authorities will, after consulting the natives of the place, consider best for bringing a pice more into the pocket of the *raiyat*.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,

48. The same paper approves of the holding of a memorial meeting in honour of the late Sir John Woodburn. Although his folly in relieving the District Boards of all responsibility in the matter of water-supply has trebled the prevailing scarcity of water in the country, and his refusal to accept the proposal of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals to increase the number of charitable dispensaries in Bengal has done not a little harm to the malaria-stricken country, yet he endeared himself to his people by his mild and kind disposition. His plague policy and his exposure of the faults of the police will make his name to be always remembered with gratitude by the people of Bengal. It is no doubt desirable that something should be done to perpetuate the memory of such a man. But if heartfelt gratitude cannot be shown except by making an expenditure of money, then the poor Bengali must be said to be unable to show it. Money is required for raising a memorial. But there is the European community headed by the omnipotent Bengal Chamber of Commerce to furnish money. The European community is indebted to the late Sir John Woodburn in more than one way. The writer therefore proposes that while every native ought to attend the memorial meeting which is to be held in the Calcutta Town Hall on the 12th instant and express deep regret at the demise of the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, the wealthy Europeans alone should bear the cost of his memorial.

49. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 10th December is sorry that agricultural products will find no place in the ensuing exhibition in Delhi. It is for her agriculture that India is called the mother of riches untold. Lord Curzon would have made the exhibition, which will be the best ever held or to be held in India, perfect if he had included agriculture in it.

Agriculture excluded from the Delhi Arts Exhibition.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 10th, 1902.

50. The same paper says that Rai Ram Brahma Sanyal Bahadur, the Superintendent of the Calcutta Zoological Garden, is a celebrated zoologist. When the Bombay Government wished to establish a zoological garden in Bombay, it called upon the Rai Bahadur to make the necessary arrangements. He is at present on a similar mission in Rangoon. His uncommon attainments induced the Government to send him to England to represent India in the congress of zoologists. A Rai Bahadurship has been conferred on him. But is this all that he deserves? A Rai Bahadurship is not considered to be a high distinction now-a-days, neither does it bring any remuneration with it. If Government wishes to reward Mr. Sanyal for his sterling qualifications, his salary should be increased to at least Rs. 1,000 per month.

Rai Ram Brahma Sanyal Bahadur, the Superintendent of the Calcutta Zoological Garden.

SANJIVANI.

51. The same paper publishes the following letter, which has been addressed by Mr. Radice, the District Magistrate of Nadia, to all principal men within his jurisdiction :—

SANJIVANI.

"SIR,

"The Coronation of His Imperial Majesty our Emperor Edward the VII will be celebrated in India on the 1st January 1903.

"His Excellency the Viceroy has ordered that all persons shall rejoice, that the poor be fed, school children be amused, and public buildings be illuminated on that day. His Excellency has expressed the opinion that funds for this purpose should be provided by the loyal people. I, therefore, request you to send your subscription at an early date.

"Yours truly,

"C. A. RADICE,

"Magistrate."

"We have been informed by a respectable inhabitant of Nadia," continues the writer, "that panchayets have been asked to collect subscriptions, for which purpose they and the police are making a house-to-house visitation."

"Is it thus that the Coronation festivities are to be conducted? The appearance of the police is enough to strike terror into the people's minds, and this police has been let loose on them to collect subscriptions. Is it thus that 'all persons shall rejoice?'

"It is Lord Curzon's order 'that all persons shall rejoice.' How wonderful this! Can any man feel joy at another's bidding? The people of this poor country are mostly involved in debt, a majority of them are unable to procure winter clothing for their little children, and a large number cannot enjoy the luxury of a full meal every day. Very small is the number of those who are in easy circumstances. And panchayets have been ordered to collect subscriptions in such a country. Fear will compel people to pay and they will pay by making loans or by other means, but will they be able to rejoice? The crores of Indians, who ought to be all life and joy at their Emperor's Coronation, are being corroded by anxiety as to how to procure money for its celebration.

"The Deputy Magistrate of Sealdah is collecting subscriptions with the help of the police. A respectable man has told us that he is being hard-pressed by the police for money. Subscriptions are being realised in this manner in many places in Bengal.

"If Lord Curzon and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal think that this practice should be put an end to, no time should be lost in wiring to the District Magistrates that only voluntary subscriptions should be collected, and that not a single pice should be collected with the help of the police or the panchayet."

SANJIVANI.
Dec. 10th, 1902.

52. The same paper has the following:—

Collection of subscriptions for the celebration of the Emperor's Coronation in Bogra.

In our issue of the 27th November last there appeared a correspondent's letter complaining of *zulum* in connection with the collection of subscriptions for the celebration of the Emperor's Coronation in Bogra [see Report on Native Papers of the 6th December, para. 33]. We have received two letters from two different persons contradicting the statements in that letter, one of these contradictors being no other than the Municipal Chairman of Bogra.

There is one point, however, about which there is no dispute between the correspondent and his contradictors, the point, namely, that "the estimated cost of the celebration is Rs. 32,000, but it is feared that eight or ten thousand more will be required." The Municipal Chairman only contends that the sum is not to be raised from only the residents of Bogra, but mainly from those who have zamindaris in that district.

But is not the raising, we ask, of so large a sum as thirty or forty thousand rupees from the zamindars and raiyats of a district so small as Bogra an act of *zulum*? We ask Lord Curzon and the Lieutenant-Governor whether this is not an act of *zulum*.

The correspondent wrote:—"Every panchayet in the district has been served with a notice asking him to collect from 200 to 250 rupees within his jurisdiction." This has not been denied by either of the two correspondents. The question now is whether the panchayets will raise this sum from the absentee zamindars of the district or from the people residing within their jurisdiction. The answer to this must be that without collecting money from the poor it would not be possible for each of these panchayets to raise from 200 to 250 rupees.

Neither have the contradictors denied the other statement of the correspondent that "the Income-tax Collector is realising from those who pay Rs. 20 or more as Income-tax subscriptions proportionate to their assessments." Let Lord Curzon and Mr. Bourdillon judge whether or no this is an act of *zulum*.

The correspondent wrote that "the District Magistrate himself keeps a subscription book in which no one is allowed to subscribe less than Rs. 10."

The Municipal Chairman does not deny this, but he says that no one is reproved for proposing to subscribe less. But is not this very refusal to accept subscriptions of less than 10 rupees an act of *zulum*? We pray both Lord Curzon and Mr. Bourdillon to enquire into the oppression which is being committed in Bengal in the name of the Coronation celebration, and thereby relieve the people of their fear.

The other contradictor, however, writes as follows in this connection:—"We know very well that, not to speak of poor men, voluntary contributions of 2 to 4 annas are being accepted even from those who are well-to-do and can well afford to pay 4 or 5 rupees."

A gentleman living in Bogra has, however, sent us a letter from his *gomasta* which runs as follows:—"The District Magistrate of Bogra issued sometime ago a notice in master's name calling for contribution towards the Coronation celebration. A joint contribution of Rs. 10 was then sent on behalf of all the co-sharers, our own contribution amounting to 1 rupee 15 annas and 5 gundas. A few days after this a notice was sent in master's name stating that the contribution fell short of what was expected, while separate notices were served on all the co-sharers. On receipt of that notice, I sent for * * * Babu yesterday Rs. 10 on behalf of * * *, Rs. 10 on behalf of * * * and Rs. 10 on our own behalf, with a request that the amount be paid to the Babu with a representation of our circumstances. Such is the *zulum* which is said to be practised that I have little hope of escaping with a payment of Rs. 10. I shall let you know afterwards what happens."

The gentleman in question has had to sell a large part of his property on account of his pecuniary embarrassments. Even a man in his position was, as the *gomasta's* letter shows, served with a second notice asking for a larger contribution. Will the other contradictor say even after this that "voluntary contributions of 2 to 4 annas are being accepted?"

53. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 12th December has been

The Inspector-General of Registration not invited to the Darbar.

surprised to learn that whilst the Secretaries of the Board of Revenue, the High Court Judges, and the Inspector-General of Police will all be

guests in the Lieutenant-Governor's Camp in the Delhi Darbar, Mr. T. K. Ghosh, Inspector-General of Registration, has not been invited to the Darbar as a guest of His Honour. Is his exclusion from the list of guests due to the fact of his being a 'native' and a 'black nigger'? It is hoped Mr. Bourdillon will be generous enough to correct this mistake.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Dec. 12th, 1902.

54. In continuation of its last article (Report on Native Papers for 13th December, paragraph 43), the *Rangalaya* [Calcutta] of the 13th December publishes the following in English:—

An address to Lord Curzon.

RANGALAYA,
Dec. 13th, 1902.

To — LORD CURZON.

MY LORD,

In the present series of Open Letters, I shall have the honour to address your Lordship on one more subject—viz., the Coronation Durbar at Delhi.

The Coronation of Edward VII, King of Great Britain and Emperor of India, was duly held in London. The Emperor commanded representatives of the Princes and people of India to participate in the celebration of his Coronation; and the Imperial command was duly obeyed. And, there were also rejoicings and festivities in India on the auspicious occasion.

Where is the Imperial command, I ask, for holding another celebration at Delhi? Your Lordship, speaking at Jaipur the other day, said: "The Durbar is not the Viceroy's Durbar." Your Lordship immediately after said: "It is held for the Sovereign and the Sovereign alone." I wish your Lordship had been in a position to declare "held by command of the Sovereign" instead of "for the Sovereign." That alone could have silenced all those who have objected to "the Viceroy's Durbar."

The Sovereign's "Deputy," as your Lordship chose to describe yourself in the Jaipur speech, cannot do what only his Chief—the Sovereign himself—can do. The Princes and people of India, therefore, ask—where is the Sovereign's command—and the echo asks—where?

My Lord, pardon me, therefore, if it is thought that the idea of the Delhi Durbar is all your Lordship's own,—that it is the Viceroy's Durbar. But, is it only, as your enemies have said, to gratify your own vanity, your love of pomp and pageantry, to give yourself Imperial airs—in short, to glorify yourself as *Dillishwara*—that you have cared not for the huge and reckless waste of official and public time, energy and resources? My Lord, I for one cannot persuade myself to believe it; for your Lordship certainly has a reputation to lose.

My Lord, is the Delhi Durbar an Imperial necessity? The Boer war has unquestionably shown to the world the decline of the military powers of Great Britain and caused a havoc in the superior ranks of the British Army. Is the Delhi Durbar meant to give the world an idea of the capacity and prestige of the British power in India—to remind covetous and designing Russia that the Government of India can, in the twinkling of an eye, command the entire resources—in money, men and arms—of all the Feudatory Chiefs of India, as a potential auxiliary to the standing Army of India—that there exists from the Himalaya to the Cape Comorin a uniform feeling of loyalty to the British Throne—that Hindus, Mussalmans, Parsis, all are too devoted to their British Sovereign even to entertain an idea for a change of rule?

My Lord, the world is governed more by sentiments and appearances than anything else. It is British prestige that keeps India in British subjection more than British arms. The Delhi Durbar will be a great and imposing event, as your Lordship said the other day; and, as such, it will eminently be calculated to serve the Imperial purpose that has suggested itself to my mind.

55. The same paper writes:—

The Woodburn Memorial meeting.

Viceroy and Lieutenant-Governors are neither the friends nor the enemies of our country. They come here to serve; they serve their term, following the policy that is in vogue at the time, and go away when their term comes

RANGALAYA.

to a close. The only difference is that the affable and kind-hearted official wins the people's respect and gratitude, as did the late Sir John Woodburn. The Viceroy is the head of the European community and Sir John was a superior official. Who, then, but Lord Curzon should preside at the Woodburn Memorial meeting? The Viceroy is not a servant of yours or mine. We are a conquered subject people, and the English are the rulers. In these matters, it is, therefore, best for us to stand a little aside.

SUHRID,
Dec. 15th, 1902.

56. The *Suhrid* [Noakhali] of the 15th December says that on the 19th November last a European Inspector of the Ichakhali steamer line detained the passenger steamer of the line for at least one hour on its way from Barisal to Ichakhali for the purpose of hunting on Tajumaddir Bahirchar. Two boars were killed and brought on the steamer. On his return journey from Ichakhali on the 21st November following, the steamer was again detained for two hours at the same place, and three cows were killed and brought on it. The clerk of the steamer reported, under instruction from the Inspector, that the delay was made at stations. The killed cows were cut in large pieces and hung in all parts of the steamer exposed to the view of its Hindu passengers to whom the sight was revolting. One of the cows and the hide of another were sold at the Daulat Khan station. The people of the place can bear witness to this. It was unlawful to hunt on the *char* as it is the property of a zamindar and as household cattle graze on it. But everything is proper for a European.

PRATIVASI,
Dec. 15th, 1902.

57. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 15th December has the following:—
Dislike of foreigners. The remark made by Lord Curzon in the course of his speech at the Woodburn Memorial meeting that "everybody is not born in the world with an instinctive liking for foreign races" was very probably intended to show that the dislike of natives on the part of many Englishmen is something natural. But it is notorious that no one is born in the world with any liking for anybody, and that it is only gradually and as a result of education and association and exercise of judgment that man comes first to love his mother, next his other relations, and then outsiders and foreigners. Dislike of foreigners, therefore, can only be a characteristic of those minds which have never received the benefit of good education and healthy intercourse with high and noble souls. To say that many Englishmen dislike foreigners is tantamount to saying that many Englishmen are uneducated and the very opposite of noble-minded. Lord Curzon must have doubtless come to see by this time how improper and unjust it is to entrust the Government of foreign races in the hands of men in whose case high birth and education have not been successful in conquering narrow selfishness of every kind and developing a sympathy with and affection for the inhabitants of foreign countries. In this connection one cannot fail to note the preponderance in the past among the European element in this country of officials who possessed the great advantages of high birth and liberal education, deeply sympathised with the people of this country, and made it the business of their lives to promote their material and intellectual prosperity.

There is no such thing as an instinctive disliking for foreigners. The fact is love begets love and kind treatment leads to kind treatment. There is no such thing as antipathy of one race against another merely as such. People admire good qualities, no matter whether they are found in one of themselves or in a foreigner. The Indians had never seen the late Queen-Empress Victoria, and yet they worshipped her. It is notorious that intensely conservative Bengalis of the old type, many of whom are still living, looked on everything European with horror, and yet they adored Europeans like David Hare as gods and used to recite the well-known sanskrit couplet—"Duff, David, Colvin, Carey and Marshman, these five whitemen are to be remembered every day, inasmuch as their memory destroys great sin." Old Haran Pandit, the father of Pandit Sivanath Sastri, grows quite enthusiastic in describing the virtues of David Hare. It is true, Mr. Townsend has attempted to show that no intellectual amalgamation of East and West is possible, but has not the Lord Bishop of Madras shown that Mr. Townsend is wrong?

Be that as it may, if, as is supposed by many, it is really impossible for Englishmen and Indians to conquer and remove the dislike which separates the two races, then, how shall the former govern this country well for a long time?

58. The *Bangabhumī* [Calcutta] of the 16th December says:—

The Woodburn Memorial.

BANGABHUMI,
Dec. 16th, 1902.

Lord Curzon said in his last Town Hall speech that the late Sir John Woodburn was a friend of the Bengal zamindars. We are unable to make out why His Excellency did not mention the Bengal merchant community in this connection. The late Lieutenant-Governor never tired of gratifying the latter. It was because the merchants were his friends that a meeting for his memorial was possible. How many Lieutenant-Governors have had the honour of having memorial meetings called for them? The officials and the merchants did not show even a hundredth part of the zeal, which they are now showing in the matter of raising a memorial for the late Sir John Woodburn, in commemorating the name of a magnanimous Viceroy like Lord Ripon, and many of them even opposed the idea. Those who spoke in the Woodburn Memorial meeting spoke only of his generous plague policy. As a matter of fact, with the exception of this single one great act, the late Lieutenant-Governor did nothing worth mentioning. Rupees 48,500 were subscribed in the meeting. It is no wonder that the rich native community of title-hunters, who are always fawning for the favour of Government and the Europeans, unloosed their purse-strings in a meeting of which the Viceroy was the President, which was attended by all high officials from the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor and the Chief Justice downwards, and which received the help and sympathy of the European merchant community throughout. It may be a matter of regret and shame, but it is not a matter of wonder, that the rich men of a country, which cannot raise memorials to its benefactors of the type of Lord Ripon and Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar for want of funds, glorify themselves and their country by helping to commemorate the name of a ruler like the late Sir John Woodburn.

59. The *Khulna* [Khulna] of the 18th December says:—

KHULNA,
Dec. 18th, 1902.

The question of Lord Curzon's paying return visits at the Delhi Darbar.

When the Delhi Darbar is for Indians, it is hoped that Lord Curzon will not wound Indian feelings in this connection. We are therefore loth to believe the rumour that His Excellency will not pay return visits to the Native Princes in their camps. If the rumour is true, what was the use of inviting them from all quarters of India, subjecting them to so much expense? What is the object of holding the Darbar—to see *tamashas*? If so, then what some people had been saying, that the Darbar was only a whim of His Excellency's, is going to be true. How is it that when the Native Princes will sacrifice a good deal of money and comfort to attend the Darbar, Lord Curzon will not be able to pay them return visits at the sacrifice of only a few minutes?

URIYA PAPERS.

60. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 6th December states that fever

Fever and measles in the Puri district and Cuttack town.

prevails in the Puri district, and that fever with measles is common in the Cuttack town.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Dec. 6th, 1902.

61. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 4th December states that the

Mad jackals in Balasore towns.

Balasore Municipality has succeeded in killing a considerable number of mad jackals and thereby

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
Dec. 4th, 1902.

allaying the irritated feelings of the rate-payers of that Municipality.

62. The same paper approves of the appointments made by Mr. Egerton,

SAMVAD VAHIKA.

Additional Sub-Inspectors of Schools in the Balasore district.

the Collector of Balasore, in his capacity of Chairman of the Balasore District Board, to the additional school Sub-Inspectorships lying vacant in his district.

63. All the vernacular papers for the week under report are full of

ALL THE NATIVE
PAPERS.

Preparations for celebration of the Coronation in Orissa.

accounts of the preparations made in different parts of Orissa to celebrate the King-Emperor's Coronation in a loyal and becoming manner.

Even a small station like Jagatsingpur in district Cuttack has taken steps to realise and spend Rs. 500 on the sacred and national object.

UTKALDIPKA,
Dec. 6th, 1902.

64. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 6th December is glad to learn that the Raja of Bamra has put a stop to the emigration of coolies from his State to foreign countries by providing labour for them in his own State.

Prohibition of coolie emigration
from the Bamra State.

ALDIPKA.

65. The same paper speaks highly of the bravery of three Uriya men and one Uriya woman, who happened to meet a tiger and a tigress at a short distance from Bhuvaneswar on their way back home, and who, when attacked, gave such heavy blows on the foreheads and mouths of the animals with the sticks in their hands that the enraged brutes ran away without doing any serious injury to their much-coveted prey.

Attack by tigers near Bhuvanes-
war.

UTKALDIPKA.

66. The same paper regrets to note that the report of 19 deaths, due to plague-inoculation at a place near Guzrat, has created a sensation all over India, which must be considered fatal to the popularity of the new movement. The writer hopes that detailed enquiries must fix the responsibility upon somebody.

Punjab plague inoculation dis-
aster.

UTKALDIPKA.

67. The same paper regrets to find that the misfortunes of the residents of the Cuttack town have no end, and quotes two instances of police oppression in support of his statement. Banamali Acharya, a *pujhari* of the Binodebihari temple, was criminally prosecuted and fined Rs. 10 for not stopping music after 10 P.M. before the goddess Kali on her way to the river. The poor *pujhari* had to pay the fine with the assistance of a public subscription. Another worshipper of Kali was treated in a similar manner. The writer observes that the majesty of the law and its technicalities might have been very well vindicated by a fine of eight annas or one rupee, and it was unnecessary or indiscreet to award exemplary punishments in cases wherein the religious feelings of a large section of the Indian community were involved.

Infliction of heavy fines for pip-
ing before a goddess after 10 P.M.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 20th December, 1902.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.